

Message Text

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ORIGIN EUR-10

INFO OCT-01 SS-14 ISO-00 DODE-00 CIAE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00

RSC-01 NSC-07 NSCE-00 PM-03 /046 R

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APPROVED BY EUR: AAHARTMAN

EUR/WE - MR. VINE

OSD/ISA - MR. LLOYD

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P R 042207Z APR 74

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS PRIORITY

INFO AMEMBASSY OSLO

AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

USCINCEUR

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 068416

LIMDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: MASS, NATO, BE

SUBJECT: REPLACEMENT AIRCRAFT FOR F-104

REF: BRUSSELS 2039

FOR AMBASSADOR FROM HARTMAN

1. YOU WILL NOTE FROM SEPTTEL THAT I EMPHASIZED TO LORIDAN
YESTERDAY THAT WE WOULD BE VERY CONCERNED IF WE ARE DENIED
OPPORTUNITY TO TALK WITH NEW BELGIAN CABINET ON THE AIR-
CRAFT REPLACEMENT QUESTION. YOUR NEW REPORT SUGGESTS THAT
WE ARE MORE THAN LIKELY TO HAVE THIS OPPORTUNITY. QUESTION
THEREFORE ARISES WHETHER WE SHOULD PLAN TO MAKE FURTHER
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PRESENTATION AS SOON AS NEW CABINET IS DECIDED UPON RATHER

THAN TO PRESENT GOVERNMENT WHICH ALREADY KNOWS OUR VIEWS
RATHER WELL, DUE LARGELY TO YOUR EFFORTS. I WOULD APPRECI-
ATE YOUR FURTHER VIEWS WITH REGARD TO TACTICS, IN LIGHT OF
YOUR LATEST READING OF THE SITUATION OVER THE WEEKEND.

2. BELGIAN ARMED FORCES ATTACHE CONFIRMED TO DEFENSE TODAY
THAT TECHNICAL TEAM WOULD BE ARRIVING HERE EARLY MAY. HE
ALSO GAVE HIS JUDGMENT THAT CARETAKER GOVERNMENT UNLIKELY
TAKE DECISION INVOLVING SUCH SIGNIFICANTLY LARGE PORTION OF
BELGIAN PROCUREMENT BUDGET. RUSH

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